

In The Claims

1. (previously presented) A compartmentalized storage system for temporarily storing and subsequently mixing at least two different substances comprising:

(a) a first storing compartment having a front and a back and a plurality of sides, defining a first cavity portion, and a tearable seal, wherein a solid sorbing substrate and a first substance are stored in the first storing compartment; and

(b) a second storing compartment having a front and a back and a plurality of sides, defining a second cavity portion, wherein a second substance is stored in the second storing compartment;

wherein the first and the second compartments are attached to each other by at least one common side, which common side comprises a frangible seal connecting the first and the second compartments, wherein the tearable seal and the frangible seal are located adjacent to each other such that pressure to open the tearable seal will break the frangible seal and thereby allow the second substance in the second storing compartment to be mixed with the solid sorbing substrate and the first substance in the first storing compartment.

2. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the storage system is flexible.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the first and the second compartments are attached to each other by one common side.

5-6. (canceled)

7. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the first substance is liquid.

8. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the first substance is solid.

9. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the second substance is liquid.

10. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the second substance is gaseous.

11. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the first and second substances are substantially non-compatible.

12. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 11, wherein the first and second substances are substantially non-compatible such that mixing the substances causes an exothermic or endothermic reaction.

13. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 11, wherein the first and second substances are substantially non-compatible such that mixing the substances causes a foaming reaction.

14. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 11, wherein the first and second substances are substantially non-compatible such that mixing the substances causes a color changing reaction.

15. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 11, wherein the first and second substances are substantially non-compatible such that mixing the substances causes a fragrance changing reaction.

16. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 11, wherein one of the first or second substances is a fragrance and the other of the first or second substances is a bleach.

17-18. (canceled)

19. (original) The compartmentalized storage system according to claim 1, wherein the solid sorbing substrate is a wipe.

20-32. (canceled)

33. (previously presented) A method for using a compartmentalized storage system to temporarily store and subsequently mix at least two different substances comprising the steps of:

(A) providing a compartmentalized storage system comprising:

(a) a first storing compartment having a front and a back, a plurality of sides, defining a first cavity portion, and a tearable seal, wherein a solid sorbing substrate and a first substance are stored in the first storing compartment; and

(b) a second storing compartment having a front and a back and a plurality of sides, defining a second cavity portion, wherein a second substance is stored in the second storing compartment;

wherein the first and the second compartments are attached to each other by at least one common side, which common side comprises a frangible seal connecting the first and the second compartments, wherein the tearable seal and the frangible seal are located adjacent to each other such that pressure to open the tearable seal will break the frangible seal and thereby allow the second substance in the second storing compartment to be mixed with the solid sorbing substrate and the first substance in the first storing compartment;

(B) applying force to the tearable seal to break the seal and thereby allow the second substance in the second storing compartment to be mixed with the solid sorbing substrate and the first substance in the first storing compartment; and

(C) removing the solid sorbing substrate, mixed with the first substance and the second substance, through the broken tearable seal in the first storing compartment.

34-36. (canceled)

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In The Figures

Please replace amended Figure 2, filed 23 February 2004, with
original Figure 2, copy enclosed.

RESPONSE

Claims 1-16, 19-33, and 35-36 are pending in the subject application. Claims 3, 5, 6, 20-32, and 35-36 were subjected to a restriction requirement and claims 1-2, 4, 7-16, 19, and 33 were allowed.

Applicant has canceled claims 3, 5, 6, 20-32, and 35-36, without prejudice, and reserves the right to prosecute these claims in a divisional patent application. Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4, 7-16, 19, and 33 are presently being examined and have been allowed.

Applicant has also amended the Figures to replace amended Figure 2, filed 23 February 2004, with original Figure 2, copy enclosed.

These amendments are fully supported in the specification as originally filed and thus no new matter is introduced by these amendments in accordance with 35 U.S.C. Section 132. Accordingly, applicant requests that the Examiner consider the following Amendment and Response and pass the above-identified application to issue.

Election/Restriction

The Examiner has withdrawn claims 3, 5, 6, 20-32, and 35-36 from further consideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.142(b), as being drawn to a nonelected species. The Examiner states that claims 3, 5, and 6, directed to Species I will not be considered for the purpose of this Office Action and the restriction is hereby made FINAL.

Drawings

The Examiner states that the proposed drawing correction filed on 2/23/2004 has not been entered on the basis that the proposed Figure 2 introduces new matter into the specification. The Examiner argues that original claim 6 does not disclose where a third common side between the compartments resides and the new drawing does not support an additional area between 215 and 215A.

Applicants' have replaced amended Figure 2, filed 23 February 2004, with original Figure 2, copy enclosed. This Amendment of the Figures, to original Figure 2, and applicants' cancellation of claim 6 obviates the Examiner's objection.

Hence, the Examiner's objection to amended Figure 2 should be withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has allowed claims 1-2, 4, 7-16, 19, and 33. Applicants have canceled non-elected claims 3, 5, 6, 20-32, and 35-36 to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicants have canceled these claims without prejudice, and reserves the right to prosecute these claims in a divisional patent application.

Accordingly, claims 1-2, 4, 7-16, 19, and 33 are in condition for allowance.

Withdrawal of Rejection of Claims 1-4, 7-9, 11, 13, 19, and 33 under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) as being Anticipated by *Kasianovitz et al.*

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has withdrawn the rejection of claims 1-4, 7-9, 11, 13, 19, and 33 as being anticipated under 35 U.S.C. Section 102(b) by United States patent no. 5,616,337 (*Kasianovitz et al.*)

Withdrawal of Rejection of Claim 5 under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kasianovitz et al.* in view of *Stupar et al.*

Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner has withdrawn the rejection of claim 5 as being obvious under 35 U.S.C. Section 103(a) over *Kasianovitz et al.* in view of United States patent no. 5,353,927 (*Stupar et al.*)

Summary

In summary, applicants have replaced amended Figure 2, filed 23 February 2004, with original Figure 2 and have canceled claim 6 to obviate the Examiner's objection. Applicants have also canceled non-elected claims 3, 5, 6, 20-32, and 35-36 to place the application in condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing Amendment and Response, applicants request reconsideration pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 112 and allowance of the claims pending in this application. Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney should the Examiner have any questions or comments which might be most

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expeditiously handled by a telephone conference. No fee is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Amendment and Response. If any fee is required, however, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of such fee to Deposit Account No. 13-4822.

Respectfully submitted,

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